

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A CRYPTOGRAPHICALLY ASSISTED
COMMERCIAL NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGNED TO FACILITATE IDEA
SUBMISSION, PURCHASE AND LICENSING AND INNOVATION TRANSFER**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The present invention is a method and apparatus for effectuating bilateral
commerce in ideas. The present invention is both an originator- (400) and user-driven (300)
online commercial network system designed to facilitate idea submission, purchase and
licensing and is easily adapted to business-to-business transfers of innovation as well as
consumer-to-business transfers of innovation. The invention allows originators of ideas to
10 communicate nondisclosing synopses of ideas globally to potential users, for users
conveniently to search for relevant ideas and for users potentially to bind an originator (400)
to a limited duration license (120a) granting user the exclusive right to access and consider
confidentially the originator's fully disclosed idea (130a). The invention also allows users
(300) to communicate confidentially or nonconfidentially unsolved problems or needs
15 globally to potential originators, for originators conveniently to search for relevant unsolved
problems or needs (100b) and for originators to submit and communicate confidentially
proposed solutions (130b) to the soliciting user.

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